

CARP KILLINARDEN

*COMMUNITY ADDICTION RESPONSE
PROGRAMME*



George Bradley RIP to whom we dedicate this annual report, receiving his Certificate in Addiction Studies at the Institute of Technology Tallaght in 2005 from Minister Noel Ahern TD, the minister at the time with responsibility for the National Drugs Strategy.

ANNUAL REPORT

2007

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In memory of George Bradley RIP 29th January 2008

In early January 2008 George wasn't his usual self and after a visit to Tallaght Hospital he was moved to St James Hospital after having suffered a number of heart attacks. He returned to Tallaght Hospital and suffered a massive heart attack on the Tuesday night 29th. He was brought to Church on the 31st and there was a very large turn out of family, relatives, friends and neighbours. There was a similar turn out on the Friday morning at his funeral mass and service at the crematorium, Newlands Cross.

Many years ago George started to work with us firstly in a voluntary capacity, secondly on a CE scheme and eventually full time employment with us. In my letter to FÁS I made a statement then that became even truer since – 'We would not be able to operate without George'. Now, unfortunately we have to try and operate without him.

George was the friendly face of CARP and he had time for everyone and the more in trouble they were the more time George had for them. He would open up the building to facilitate people who were homeless and make sure that people didn't forget appointments. He loved to take people fishing and there were many trips to Wicklow town where he endeavoured to make everyone drink large strawberry milkshakes – he had to make sure the budget was all spent. George was very dependable and reliable and a tremendous asset to CARP.

We extend our sympathies to his wife, Liz; his children Stephen, James, Marisa and Aaron; his grandchildren Jessica, Clive, Niamh and Sarah; his brothers John, Ted and Paul and his sisters Kathleen and Bridget.

We would like to thank his family for the kind gesture of asking people to make donations to CARP in lieu of flowers.

We ask God to look with kindness on George and to give him the role of guardian angel and to look out not only for his family but also to give him time off to chase up those who are straying from the straight and narrow.

May George rest in peace and may his good life be a consolation to his family and may his memory last for years to come.

Mission Statement

CARP works with people so that they don't feel helpless when faced with the tragic consequences of problem drug use either to themselves, their families and their community.

Ethos

CARP tries to have a non-judgmental approach to individual drug use and works with each person so that they can address their addictions while ensuring that they cause minimal damage and injury to themselves, their families and their community.

HISTORY

CARP began in July 1995 as a response to drugs problem in Killinarden. It was a partnership between parents of problem drug users, who had been meeting regularly since October 1994, and Killinarden Community Council. It became a registered company in December 1997.

This picture was taken of George and one of the teams in Cushlawn Park that he was involved with in the 1980s. (Apologies about the quality of the reproduction).

CARP has a board of 8 directors who are elected on an annual basis.

Tony O'Hagan, member of the community department South Dublin County Council, is the chairperson.

Jane Wade, one of the original members of the parents group, is the company secretary.

Patricia Darling, development officer of Vincent de Paul for West Tallaght, is the company treasurer.

The other directors are:

Patricia Byrne, estate management officer for Killinarden and Killinarden Community Council representative.

Mary Glynn, one of the original members of the parents group.

Patricia Nolan, Manager Tallaght Volunteer Bureau

Joe Ryan, business man.

Joe McGee, MSC, Assistant MSC Provincial.

STAFF

CARP has a staff of 9.

7 full time employees

Liam O'Brien, Co-ordinator and Manager.

Ann Doyle, Community Support Worker.

Audrey Kavanagh, Administrator/Receptionist.

Pat McVeigh, Manager Slánú

Sylvia Beatley, Development Slánú

Deirdre Dowdall, Assistant Manager Slánú

Gary Maloney, Youth and outreach Worker.

2 part time.

Leena Madani, Addiction Counsellor

Thérèse Hegarty, Family Therapist.

There is a weekly team meeting for those involved in the clinical and another for those involved in rehabilitation.

CARP is basically an addiction response centre for the people of Killinarden and further afield.

1. Introduction

1.1 Drug use in Killinarden during 2007.

2007 continued the trend that had emerged in 2004 of less and less people presenting for treatment for problem heroin use. However, another pathway into heroin dependency is emerging. Three people were admitted to methadone maintenance therapy due to taking heroin to bring them down after using cocaine and so developed a heroin habit. Others also presented for the same reason but didn't want methadone maintenance treatment. There are rumours of cocaine people now using heroin as their drug of choice. However, they haven't as yet presented to CARP.

Numbers in methadone maintenance therapy continue to remain around the seventy mark. A number of people have finished with CARP during the year – some via residential treatment centres and some moved out to GPs in the community. Some people destabilised and were moved to the main HSE clinic in Tallaght – Belgard Road. Some people who had stabilised there were transferred to CARP.

During 2007 the HSE had continued success with people only waiting a month, at most, after assessment before starting treatment. If it took longer then that was very often due to people not turning up when asked to do so and so the delay was due to their own actions. CARP's waiting list is never more than 2 to 3 at any one time.

There has been considerable interest in people going down the country or abroad for residential treatment. CARP was the conduit for local drug task force monies to pay for peoples' residential treatment. Four people were cleared to go to St James Camino Centre, Enfield, Co. Meath. Three left within a week and one is still there. One person went to Cuan Mhuire, Athy, Co. Kildare and has recently left it after approximately 20 weeks. One person went to Detox 5 in England and is continuing to take naltrexone approximately 20 weeks after treatment. He says good things about it but it would be our opinion that it is his families support and his own determination to continue to link in with us for aftercare that keeps him clean. Two other people did 'cold turkey'.

As before cocaine continues to be the drug of choice of most young people in Killinarden – after alcohol and cannabis/hash. Amongst heroin users their preferred form of cocaine is crack – cocaine washed up with ammonia (more properly known as freebase). Crack, washed up with bread soda by people themselves, or sold as rocks increased in usage amongst heroin users in treatment, during the year. Some heroin users used to injecting heroin have moved over to injecting cocaine. This has caused some people to present with serious arm and leg injuries caused by the cocaine. Cocaine is an anaesthetic and people don't feel the needle and so cause more damage to the injecting site and hence increase the risk of infections. Cocaine and crack use involves serious amounts of money and some people are leaving treatment because of the debts that they have incurred and the fear for their lives.

Abuse of prescription drugs still continues to be a problem. E seems more confined to cocaine users than heroin users as in 2006. One person reported using Crystal Meth in Dublin and another reported it being used in Kildare. Other reported uses of Crystal Meth we feel are due to other drugs rather than Crystal Meth due to the description of its effects.

One of the sadder moments occurred towards the end of the year when a mother who made an appointment to discuss her son's possible use of drugs – hash, brought him in and put him, and us, in a very negative position. She wanted him to prove he wasn't doing drugs by giving a urine sample. Some parents are under the impression that problem drug use is easily dealt with. They erroneously believe that they can make their son or daughter stop using drugs. Our advice to parents would be to talk to your children about all things from an early age. If they start using drugs then they will be able to discuss the matter with you. Unfortunately life isn't easy for most of us and we can get carried away when a son/daughter starts using drugs. Some schools also seem to be in a similar position where drug using students are expelled unless they can prove they are not on drugs.

2. Health Service Executive – South Western Area (HSE.SWA)

2.1 Finance

The HSE.SWE grant aids CARP with a Section 65 grant each year. They also include national wage agreements but no benchmarking. CARP is pursuing benchmarking with the Tallaght Local Drugs Task Force(LDTF). The HSE also gives CARP a Support

Workers Grant and is the agency for main stream funding from the LDTF. They also gave CARP a once off grant towards Family Therapy.

2.2 Methadone Scripting Clinic

The HSE.SWE provides a doctor and nurse three mornings and one afternoon a week. They look after the methadone scripting needs of around 70 people who are in receipt of substitution therapy with CARP.

People attend CARP once a week to meet with their doctor and/or nurse. They get a special methadone prescription which they bring to their named pharmacy. A card with their photo and signature is in the pharmacy and they are dispensed their methadone on site. When a person is giving clean urines over a period of time they get 'take aways'. Finally when they are on weekly takeaways they have only to visit the pharmacy once a week and consume their daily dose for that day on site. When they are stable long enough they are moved to a private GP.

During 2007 a number of people were moved to GPs and a number of people finished fully with methadone.

2.3 Needle Exchange

2008 was our fourth year involved in needle exchange. During the year the HSE.SWA needle exchange clinics ceased. We requested that the session on the Tuesday be discontinued due to lack of numbers and that CARP wanted to look at other uses for that time slot. Some time later the HSE cancelled the Friday clinic due to the lack of demand due to CARP providing a service from Monday through to Friday from 2 pm to 5 pm.

In 2007 we supplied 1456 exchanges to 184 individuals of whom 91 were new to the service. This represents an increase of 60%.

In 2006 we supplied 915 exchanges to 144 individuals of whom 86 were new to the service.

In 2005 we supplied 497 exchanges for 84 individuals.

As in previous years CARP pays for the exchange material from private donations.

3. Rehabilitation.

3.1 Art/Crafts

This is gradually winding down and is now on one afternoon a week and is being replaced by the Slánú (rehabilitation project).

3.2 Pilot Rehabilitation Project for 18 to 25 year olds in treatment for drug use in partnership with FÁS, VEC and Pobal

SLÁNÚ, the stabilization/rehabilitation programme takes place in Carp from Monday to Thursday from 10am to 3pm. Staff for this programme commenced working in September 2006 and our first group of five came on board on the 9th October 06. Four of that initial group are still with us and doing well and this will be elaborated on in the report, the fifth person had no objective for treatment and as he couldn't deal with his chaos we ended his term 11th May 2007 after eight Months.

Primarily a Community Employment Scheme for young people between the age 18-25 and on a Methadone Maintenance Programme, Slánú is funded by FAS for the purpose of stabilization, progression to education and work readiness. Our first year from October 06 to October 07 was used to address the complex needs of the group such as having a day to day routine, family relations, ill-health, social welfare issues and any outstanding legal problems that group members may have had.

The major focus for Slánú then was in three areas;

- 1). **Routine:** time keeping, keeping appointments and helping them with their concentration.
- 2). **Personal Development:** pride in appearance, coping skills, non-confrontational skills, money management and managing physical and emotional health.
- 3). **Social Skills:** to listen, to advocate for themselves and to take part in group and team work.

It was clear that the participants lacked confidence to speak and socialise in situations beyond their drug using environment. They were bored, in a rut and some were presenting to their GP in a depressive state.

Their health and hygiene was poor due mainly to low resistance and the manner in which some of them ignored open sores and wounds gave us cause for concern. The group had under achieved in education and vocation and many of them had only very basic reading and writing skills.

Throughout the year we have had a maximum of fifteen people on our scheme at any one time. Presently our numbers are made up of twelve participants on the course, a cook on community employment and since October 07 an administrator for the Service User's Forum, who is a CE worker sponsor by CARP. This person is based in the Tallaght Partnership offices and is responsible to the Slánú manager for his work in supporting Drug Service Users to advocate for their own needs.

3.2.1 Certification

Throughout 2007 the Slánú group engaged in a wide range of activities with Certificates of Achievements for ten activities.

Fourteen people, four females and ten males, took part in this certification and the rate of achievement was high;

Reiki level 1 fourteen people got certificates.

Global Citizenship eleven got certificates.

Steps to Excellence eight got certificates.

First Aid twelve got certificates.

Health & Safety nine got certificates.

Stress Management fourteen got certificates.

Voter Education ten got certificates.
Stable Management/ Horse Handling fourteen got certificates.
Drama with Maurice Dunphy (FETAC level 3) twelve got certificates.

Some participants were not present for all the days of training and therefore missed out on certificates. Some of the activities could only facilitate smaller numbers in a group but the others will be given the opportunity to do courses these courses in 2008.

3.2.2 Non-certification Activities

The group completed many other activities such as:

- Thérèse Hegarty the Family Therapist in CARP is also engaged with Slánú and is supported by Keith Oulton, Masters in Organisational Psychology and the International Diploma in Narrative Practice, in delivering The Tree of Life Programme. The “tree of life” refers to an introductory exercise which participants take part in each week for 12 weeks in which each person talks about their current understanding of success and frustration. The Tree of Life also refers to an exercise undertaken to explore a persons roots, strengths, hopes, dreams, fruits and gifts, and to remember those people living or dead who had an influence on a persons life.
- Arts with Stuart Coleman
- Mosaics with Karim Sadiq
- Music in Deonach – Tallaght Probation Project
- Communication Skills with Anna Taaffe
- Money Management in house
- Gardening with Jimmy Hyland
- Health Management through Yoga
- HIV Awareness, STIs, Male and Female Sexual Health Awareness delivered by HSE outreach workers
- Mental Health Awareness
- Denis O’Driscoll, HSE Pharmacist, delivered a programme around Opiate use and addiction
- Sr Phyllis, Coordinator of Active Citizenship Voter Education Programme, delivered a course by which participants identify and discuss the many issues that all society struggle with, crime, health care, cost of living etc and if change is to be made then responsible actions can be taken. Voters, community and society interlink to demonstrate how participation in positive action like voting and community action can bring about change. The programme is part of the Vincentian Partnership for Social Justice.
- Relapse awareness is ongoing in house.
- A group forum was started and the group voiced their own opinions as to their requirements and requests.
- Weekly attendance in the Killinarden Community School Gym under the auspices of the VEC
- A day out to the National Museum.
- A boat trip around Dublin Bay.

3.2.3 Accreditation

During the year contact was made with an Cosan to provide computer training during 2008. It will consist of an introduction to ECDL and then ECDL.

3.2.4 FETAC

The group have commenced Numeracy (FETAC level 3) with Catherine Walsh. Communications (FETAC level 3) which includes a literacy component will begin in February and we expected to confirm computer training -an introduction to ECDL then ECDL in An Cosan which will lead to accreditation (FETAC level 3).

Three participants attend Deonach once a week for an accredited Photography (FETAC Level 5) course and this has developed into working on a short film about a theme which the group choose themselves.

3.2.5 ILP (Individual Learning Plan)

FAS have introduced a framework for development and this directs discussions with the individual about their learning needs. The **Individual Learning Plan** provides a focus for the participant to identify their general learning needs and work related learning needs. This involves having a Pre- Learning Agreement with each individual and reviewing the learning objective for each activity. Ten Individual Learning Plans have been completed, two to be completed and that will allow us to monitor the training and progression.

3.2.6 Comment

I can say that the three areas highlighted previously - routine, personal development and social skills - have been advanced through these activities and Slánú colleagues continue to build on them.

Overall the time keeping for the majority of the participants has improved, but a few have still to master this. We will continue to encourage the individuals to meet their agreement with us around the times. Time away from the programme has more to do with sickness, appointments and other family matters so the chaos and drug use is less evident for the group.

The one issue that we struggle with are the health issues that confront the individual participant - Blood borne viruses, Clots on Lungs, ulcers, etc. Group members are urged to keep their appointments and they seem committed to looking after themselves this way.

Family issues and housing matters are there for this group and we offer supports to attempt to address the problems through liaising with Killinarden Estate Management Committee, South Dublin County Council and Social Housing providers.

A number of people on the programme attend the Family Therapist in CARP with their family member(s) and Slánú will continue to promote the links with other services in CARP and beyond.

Overall the group have made good progress in their rehabilitation. Social skills have improved and the attitude of each person has shifted to being hopeful for the future, recovering their health, achieving certificates and discussing the type of job they would like to do.

3.2.7 Finance

The funding for the running of Slánú comes from **FAS, Dormant Accounts and Tallaght Drugs Task Force.**

The income from FAS supports part of the wages for the Supervisor and Assistant Supervisor, the wages for participants, training grant, material for courses, insurance and audit fees. CARP as the community employer pays the participants PRSI. Dormant Accounts covers development worker's salary, tutor costs, family therapy, hospitality and some overheads. The Drug Task Force money covers salary for the administrator and top up for FÁS supervisor/assistant supervisor.

The total grant received and expenditure from FAS in year one, September 06- October 07 was

Group Wages = €134,942

Supervisors Wages = €54,428

Materials = €12,220

Training Grant = €3,000

Total expenditure for Dormant Account Fund to 31st December 2007;

Development Worker Salary = €55,392

Programme Costs = €43,930

Overheads = €8,055

Totals = €107,377

Tallaght LDTF – Paying Agency VEC

Expenditure to 31st December 2007

Wages = €63,774

4. Young Persons Facilities and Services Fund

Siblings Group

The groups re started back up in July 07 after a few months break. Initially the groups

were quiet and only consisted of a small number of people. As time progressed and people realised that the groups/club had started back up again the numbers increased to between 10-15 per group, the numbers stayed like this till the end of August when people returned to school jobs/ FÁS / youthreach etc .the numbers have stayed consistent since then. The groups are held 3 times per week .There has been a fall off in the older people members as they have come of age and have completed school or have secured employment / training. New younger members from the area have been selected and have come forward for selection for the club/group.

The group works with young people from the ages of 12-18 and in some cases up to the age of 21.

Number of young people in contact since July 2007.

Age between 10-14	Age between 15-19
Male/Female	Male/Female
26	9

Prison Visits

The Youth worker had his first Prison visit in Nov 07. He has had a number of visits to various people in various prisons. He will continue to visit the Prisons while the demand is there. We provide one to one support on these visits and try and assist the person in any way possible including referrals to drug treatment services, solicitors etc.

Overnights / Residential

There has been one overnight/residential outing this year. The group visited Knockroe Lodge in Co Carlow. The young people involved enjoyed their stay. A number of residentials have already been booked for the coming year.

One to One support

Our Youth worker has worked with approx 11 Young people on a one to one basis. Some people (3) have engaged only once, while the remaining people (8) are engaging on a regular basis. We have also established a good working arrangement/agreement with YODA, the Youth drug and alcohol counselling service and refer some young people who we feel could benefit from there specific service.

Home / Visits

Our Youth worker has visited a number of homes for the purpose of one to one support to young people who cannot attend CARP for whatever reasons.

Advocacy /Court appearances

Our Youth worker has worked closely with (4) young people while they have been in the Criminal Justice system. Two clients' cases have been successfully dealt with. The remaining clients' cases will be dealt with in 2008.

Drop In

CARP and KCCYP have joined together to facilitate the drop in, in Killinarden Community Centre. The drop in is open 4 nights per week Mon and Wed from 10pm to Midnight, and on Tuesday and Thursday from 8pm-10pm, the service is still proving to be very successful and popular with the Young People from the area .

Springboard

CARP received a college placement from Springboard during the summer months, She worked very well with the Young people in the groups, we hope to get another placement this year. Our placement will remain on as a volunteer for the foreseeable future.

Volunteers

CARP currently has volunteers in place. Our newest volunteer is currently studying Social science in Maynooth College. We wish her all the best with her exams and studies. Our other volunteer has secured a part time position in the Community Centre Youth project until April. Again we wish her well in her search for full time employment.

We are always looking for volunteers to assist us. If you are interested in helping within your community please call in to see us.

Gym Club

Together with the VEC, CARP has secured a number of places / slots in the Killinarden Community School Gym. This is a new venture for both parties. We have only had 2 sessions so far, but the Young people are really enthusiastic and keen to use the facility on a weekly basis. If the interest increases we have been promised new and additional times.

Jobs Club

CARP have been assisting Young people from the Parish to find suitable employment. This has been provided on an informal basis. This coming year we have decided to formalize it and schedule a "Jobs club" where young people can come and avail of such

services as CV preparation, interview skills, references etc. This service will start officially by Feb 08.

Outdoor Activities

Go karting

One Siblings group has been to Kylemore go karting in Ballyfermot during the Summer months. This activity went down very well with the young people. We hope to incorporate this activity into the coming years plan also.

Fishing Trips

Two siblings groups have been on out a boat fishing trip to Ringend Harbour in August. This proved to be an extraordinary event and very popular with the young people. It is only possible to run this event during the months from April-October due to marine restrictions and bad weather. This activity will be used a lot during the coming year.

Snooker table

CARP received a kind donation of a full sized snooker table from an Oil company, although we were extremely grateful with it we just didn't have the space to use it. CARP gladly donated the table to the Tallaght Rehabilitation Project in Kiltalown House. They have the space for it and it will be used regularly.

5. Dept of Justice, Equity and Law Reform

5.1 Prison Visitation

CARP staff did less prison visitations during 2007 compared to previous years. This was mainly due to staff shortages – but towards the end of the year the number of visit became more regular.

5.2 Probation Service

The Probation Service, both Tallaght and Smithfield, continue to liaise with CARP over mutual clients and refer people from their service for urinalysis.

Twenty one people were referred for urinalysis during 2007 – six up on 2006.

6. Killinarden Community

Killinarden Community Council (KCC) and CARP continue to work closely together.

CARP has representation on a number of bodies: Local Drugs Task Force; Citywide; VEC Youth Programme; National Advisory Committee on Drugs; Tallaght Homeless Advice Unit; Brookfield Addiction Support Programme; Drug Treatment Centre, Trinity Court; CARP is also a representative on for the Community Platform on the Social Inclusions Measures Committee of South Dublin County Council.

7. Publications

7.1 Webpage

CARP's webpage www.carp.ie contains a monthly update on CARP's activities. It was set up and maintained by Adewale Onafuwa as a volunteer who came to us through Tallaght Volunteer Bureau.

7.2 Newsletter

There was no newsletter during 2007.

8. Premises

The occupancy rate of the building has remained similar to 2006. The yearly total was close to 12,000.

As at the end of 2006, 2005, 2004 and 2003 we are still awaiting the final instalments of our capital funding from the HSE.SWE. It will be handed over when CARP receives a management license from SDCC. We were hopeful that it would have been resolved during 2006. Towards the end of 2006 there was correspondence that suggested that 2007 might be the year.

The area at the back was landscaped by the participants of Slánú during the summer under the direction of James Hyland. It is looking very well.

There was a problem with vandalism during the year and we had to replace a number of windows. However, it seems to have receded but we will have to revisit our CCTV set up during 2008.

The building is beginning to show its age and some wear and tear. We had to get the floor at the entrance redone due to warping due to water seepage.

9. Homeless

There were very few uses of the homeless services continuing the trend of 2006.

10. Counselling

Demand for counselling continued during 2007. Our counsellor, Leena Madani, continued to work with a number of clients in partnership with the HSE.SWA and with Target, as well as clients from CARP. The total number of attended sessions was 369 for 53 clients of whom 38 were attending for the first time.

11. Family Therapy

We finished last year with the service going two days a week. This has resulted in a far greater number of people availing of the service.

Children of Separated Parents	13 Families	18 Children	16 Adults	116 sessions
Bereavement	9 families	14 children	14 adults	66 sessions
Marriage/Relationship Counselling			4 couples	26 sessions
Addiction	5 families		12 adults	54 sessions
Behaviour Problems in children	3 families	3 children	4 adults	8 sessions

Many of families presenting come with a range of concerns. The above figures are based on the central concern of families presenting.

Our therapist, Thérèse Hegarty, is taking part in an International Training programme in Narrative Therapy and Community Work based in Adelaide, Australia. She will be presenting some of her work in CARP, in particular the group work with Slánú participants, at International Seminars.

12. Service of Hope and Remembrance.

CARP hosted the Service of Hope and Remembrance for Tallaght in November. The Sacred Heart Church was the venue and an organising committee of the different projects in Tallaght facilitated by the acting Tallaght LDTF co-ordinator, Grace Hill, planned it in detail. Ann Doyle, Mary Glynn, Jane Wade and Patricia Darling represented CARP on the organising committee. The highlight, of many highlights, of the night was the play performed by Killinarden Youth Club members. We are thankful to the priests of the parish for the use of their facilities – Fr Tom Plower, MSC and Fr Des Farnan MSC for the Church and Sr Louise, Daughter of Charity for the use of the Resource Centre for light refreshments afterwards.

13. Finance

Financially things became more solid during 2007.

13.1 CARP Non grant income

CARP co-facilitated the Community Addiction Studies in the Tallaght Institute of Technology. Half the facilitation fees and the administration fee, totalling €5,000, was paid to CARP.

Rent of the premises, arts crafts, donations etc realised €5.5K

13.2 Statutory Grants

CARP received the following statutory grants:

Health Board: €155K (including €15K once off grant family therapy).

Local Drugs Task Force: €28K (Through HSE).

Young Persons Facilities and Services Fund: €63K (Through VEC)

Family Support Agency: €10K

14. Evening/Cocaine Project

This project is jointly run by St Dominic's Contact Centre and CARP. It is jointly known by the name Evening or Cocaine Project.

The highlights of the year were a presentation on the project by CARP's coordinator in Croke Park at the end of June and an appearance on Primetime by the St Dominic's Coordinator in early December. The low light of the year was the continuing uncertainty about its future. We were asked about a dozen times for our statistics. We were asked to make projections of what it would cost. We were told that the project would be co funded. We were told it would have to go through the Local Drugs Task Force - again. The HSE.SWA has been very supportive of the project but there seems to be difficulties in getting certainty as to who will fund the project and to what amount.

90 people presented to the cocaine project and 60 of these were new to the project. Referrals came through many sources – HSE outreach workers, Gardai, Probation Service, Advertising, Word of mouth, family, GPs etc.

Due to uncertainties over funding one staff member was let go and we had to curtail our outreach work. This resulted in a drop in numbers calling to the service. When funding resumed we were able to address these issues and numbers in the latter half of the year increased. We restarted the Friday evening service in November and we are back at full service since then. We also opened the service during the Christmas holidays since Christmas was a dangerous time for people trying to stay off cocaine.

The cocaine project as a drop in service is available on Mon and Weds from 6pm to 9pm in St Dominic's Contact Service in Millbrook Lawns and on Fridays in CARP from 6pm to 9pm. We offer an assessment, one-to-one, holistics, urinalysis, court reports and

counselling. We also meet with family members. At other times people can be seen by appointment.

A trend that is emerging is that a number of families are finding cocaine in their homes and don't know what to do about it. They know if they go to the Gardai that they risk giving their son/daughter a criminal record and if the drugs are confiscated their son/daughter might be shot by the person for whom they were dealing.

15. Staff

All of CARP's efforts in dealing with problem drug use wouldn't be possible without a very dedicated staff. CARP directors are appreciative of the invaluable work they do. During the year we said good bye to Vivienne Nolan and welcomed Gary Maloney in her place. Deirdre Dowdall returned to work after some time off. As mentioned earlier in this report CARP mourns the loss of George Bradley.

16. Problem Drug Users

Finally, CARP would like to thank all problem drug users who avail of our services. We thank you for your courtesy, kindness and understanding of our limitations. We would like for you to make us redundant but we have to be realistic and acknowledge that problem drug use will continue to be a factor in our lives for the future.

However, CARP hopes that it will in some way remove the stigma attached to being a problem drug user and that some time in the future more people will see problem drug use as a human condition and not something for which people should be condemned but rather helped to deal with so that people can get on with the difficult job of life.

17. Future

CARP believes that it now has achieved most of its objectives and is professionally responding as a community based response to problem drug use in Killinarden. Killinarden has a population of over 8,000 people. Along with the other projects of a similar nature in Tallaght it is ready to continue to address problem drug use.

Its priority now is to set such structures in place that will make the project viable into the future.

CARP will visit the space requirements of its work and debate whether to have an extension built.

CARP made a number of contacts with various drug projects in Europe – mainly in the Netherlands but no matching programme could be found. The search continues.



The above picture is of George Bradley and a soccer team he was involved with in the 1980s. The team is from Cushlawn. The priest in the picture is Fr John Maguire MSC a young curate of the parish who died tragically from cancer in the late 1980s. George has now joined Fr John Maguire and some of the young boys who left this life before their time. May we all keep them in our thoughts.

(Apologies about the poor quality of the reproduction.)